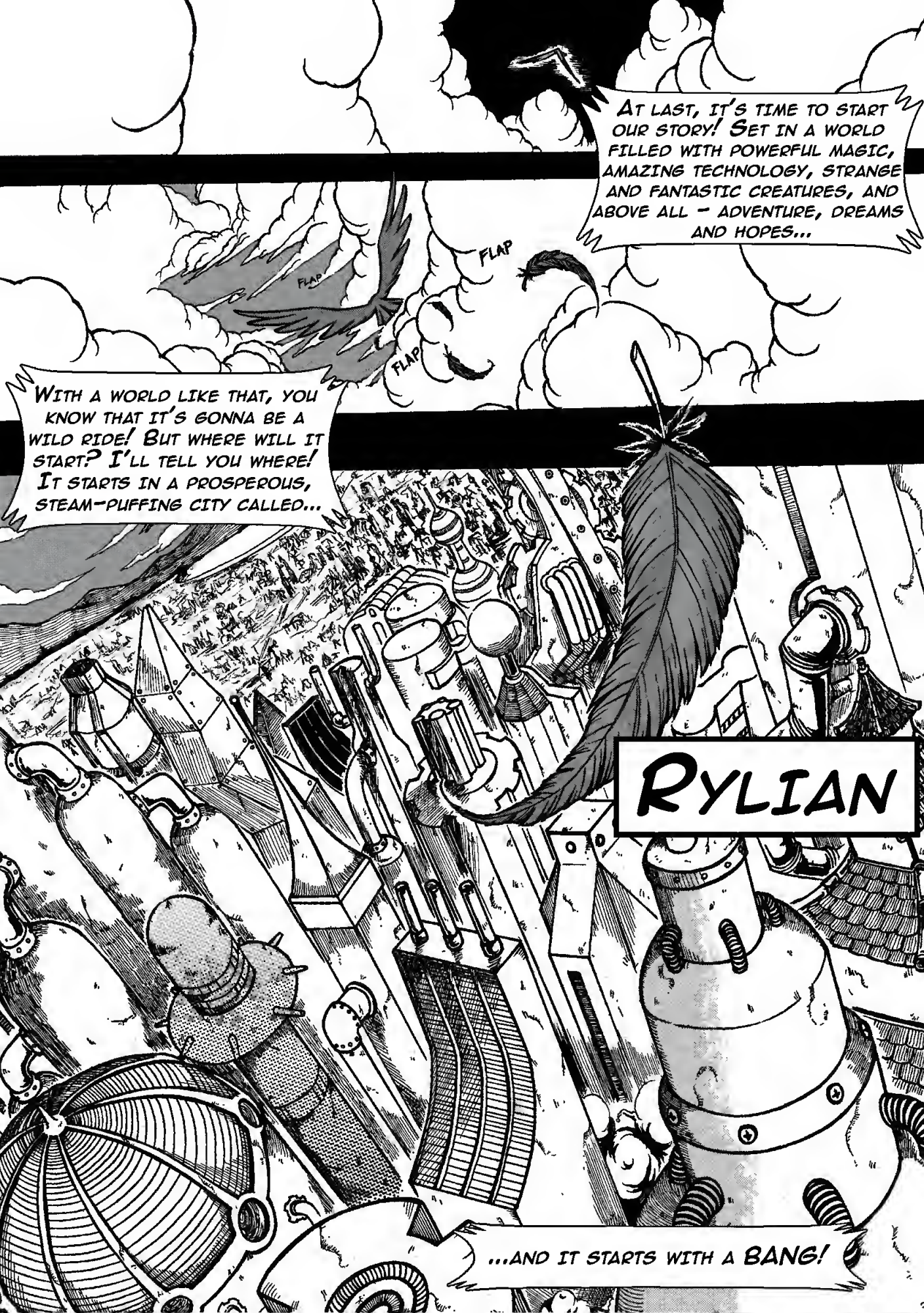
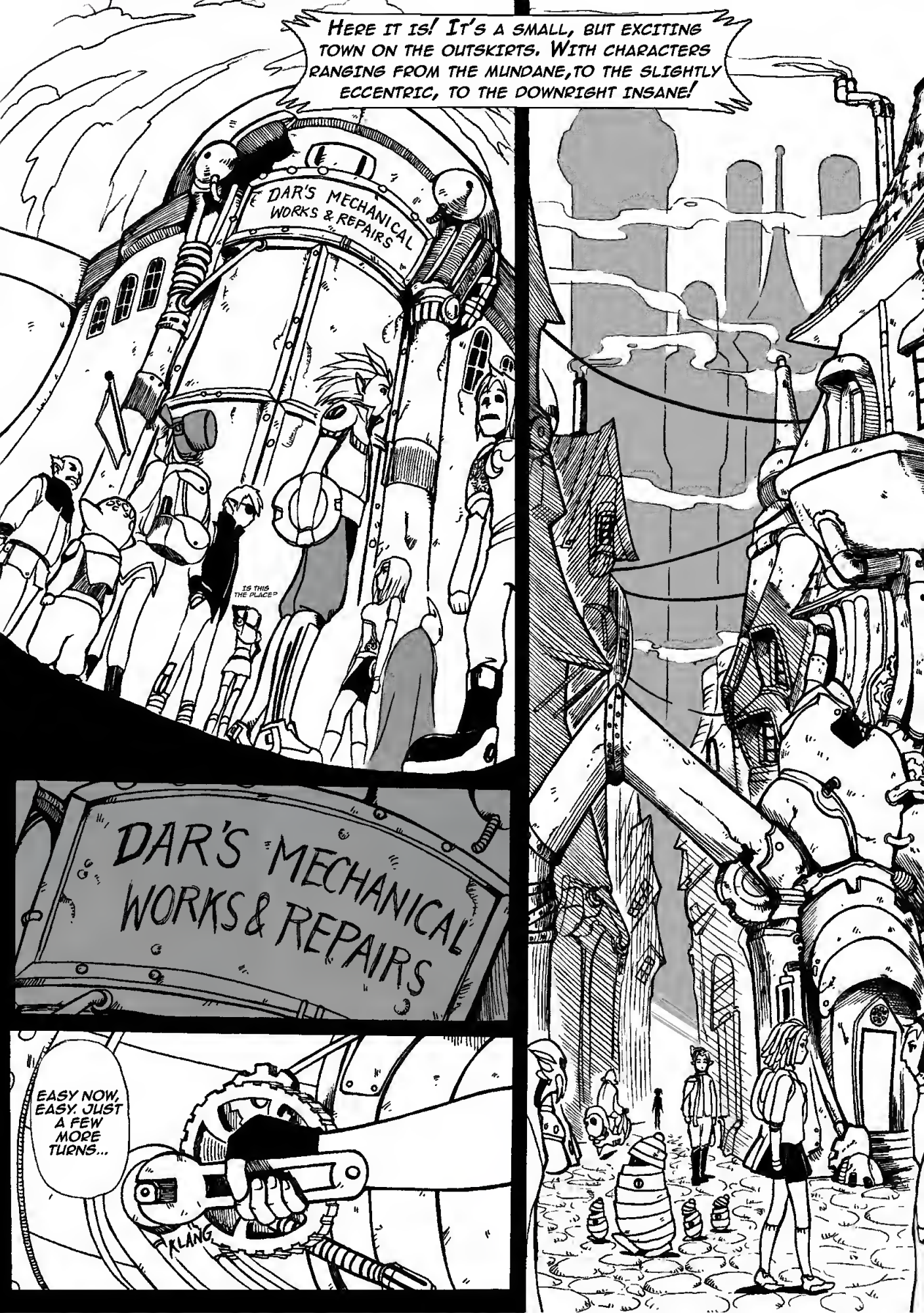
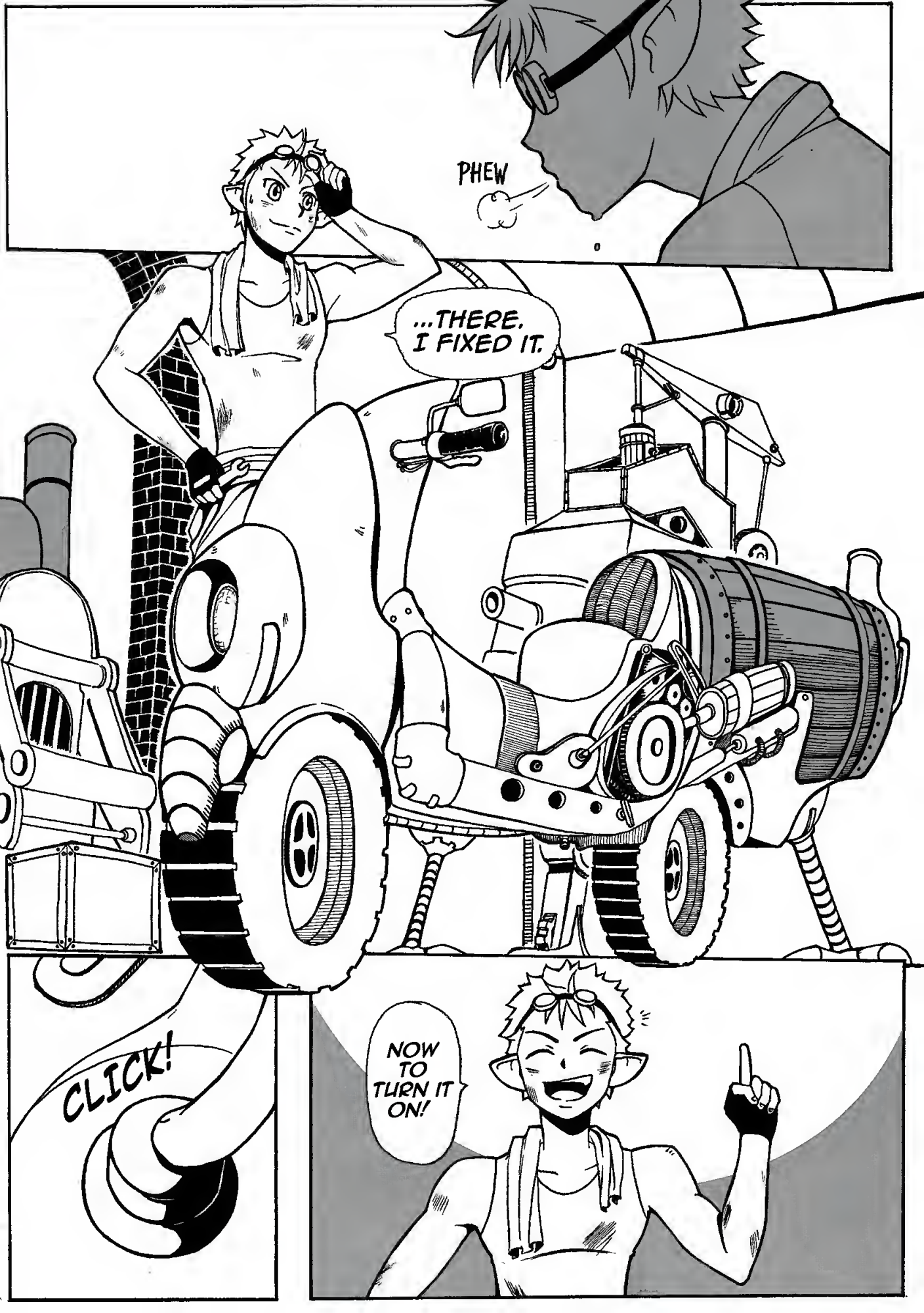
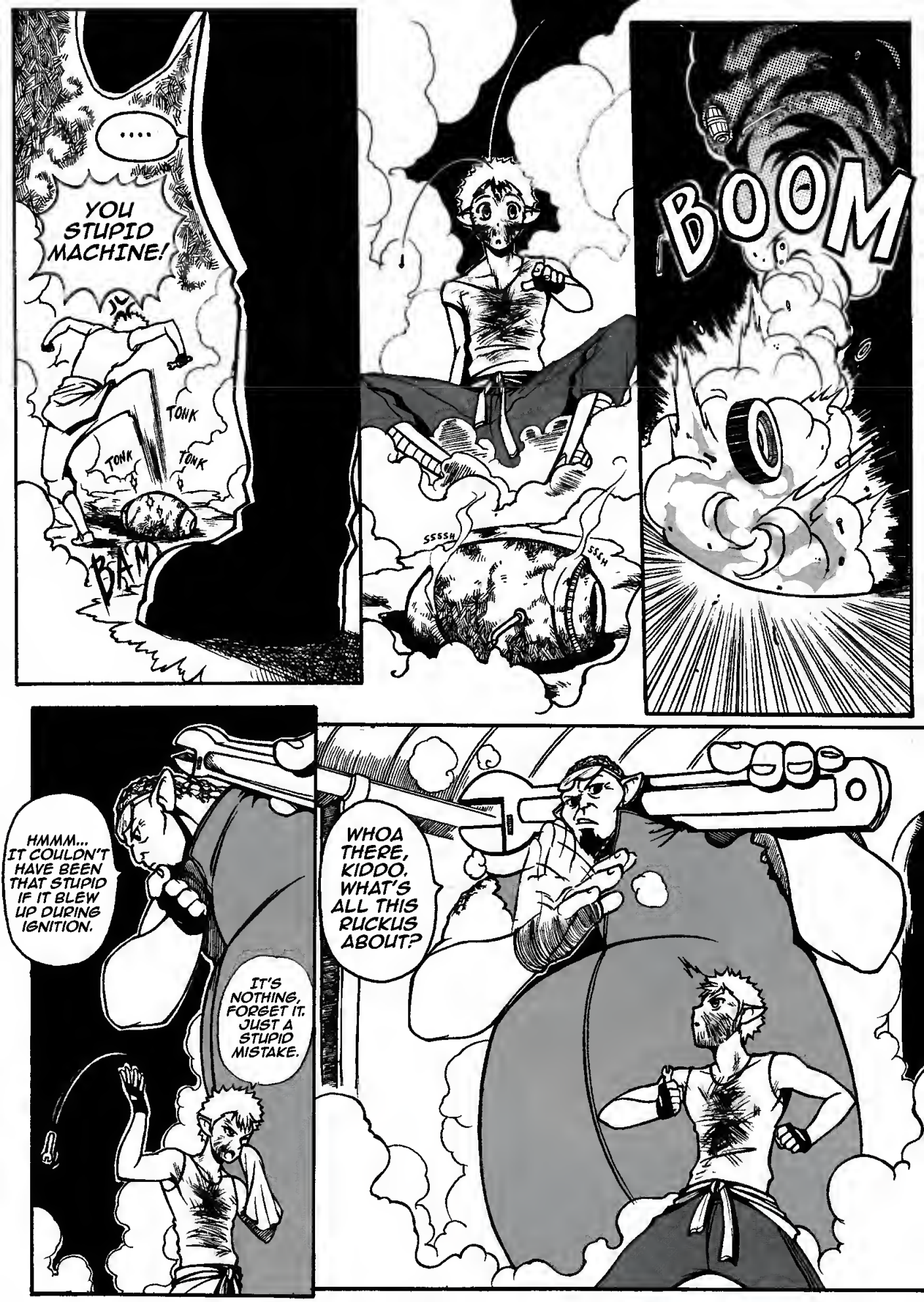
Chapter 1: An Explosive Beginning!


At last, it's time to start our story! Set in a world filled with powerful magic, amazing technology, strange and fantastic creatures, and above all - adventure, dreams and hopes...
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
With a world like that, you know that it's gonna be a wild ride! But where will it start? I'll tell you where! It starts in a prosperous, steam-puffing city called...
RYLIAN
...and it starts with a BANG!


HERE IT IS! IT'S A SMALL, BUT EXCITING TOWN ON THE OUTSKIRTS. WITH CHARACTERS RANGING FROM THE MUNDANE, TO THE SLIGHTLY ECCENTRIC, TO THE DOWNRIGHT INSANE!
DAR'S MECHANICAL WORKS & REPAIRS
IS THIS THE PLACE?
DAR'S MECHANICAL WORKS & REPAIRS
EASY NOW, EASY. JUST A FEW MORE TURNS...
KLANG


PHEW
...THERE. I FIXED IT.
CLICK!
NOW TO TURN IT ON!


....
YOU STUPID MACHINE!
TONK
TONK
TONK
BAM
SSSSH
SSSH
BOOM
HMMM... IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN THAT STUPID IF IT BLEW UP DURING IGNITION.
IT'S NOTHING, FORGET IT. JUST A STUPID MISTAKE.
WHOA THERE, KIDDO. WHAT'S ALL THIS RUCKUS ABOUT?

I GIVE UP...
THAT'S IT!
DON'T YOU ALWAYS? AND YET THE VERY NEXT DAY...
...YOU STILL GRAB THAT WRENCH AND STILL MANAGE TO LIGHTEN MY POUCH BY A DOZEN COINS.
HEH, SORRY. CAN'T ARGUE WITH YOU THERE, POPS.

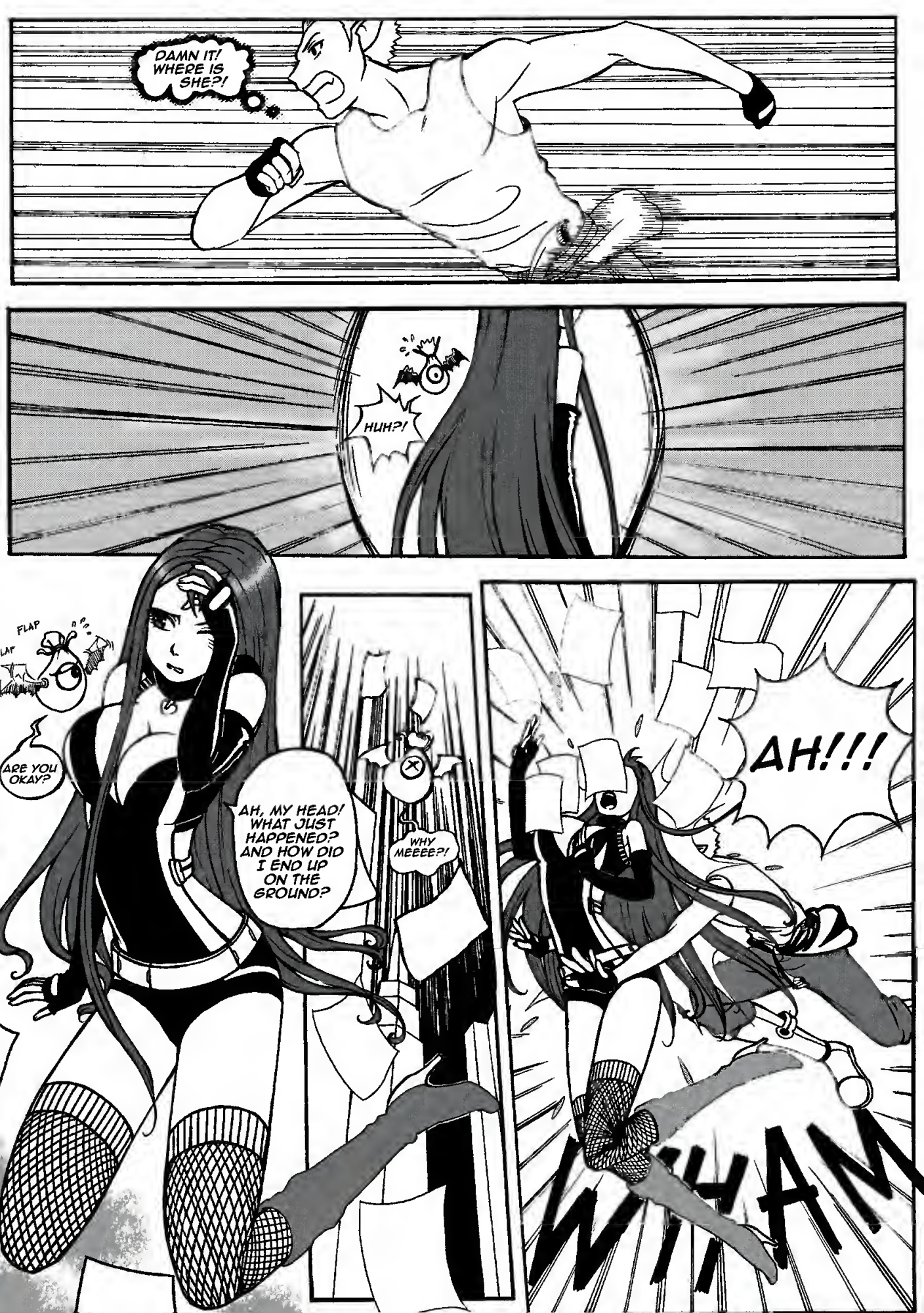
HEY! HEY NOW, LYN! GET YOUR LAZY ASS UP AND RUNNING. GET UP, BOY. GET UP AND CLEAN THIS MESS.
...
POKE
ALRIGHT ALRIGHT! I'M UP, SEE?
I GUESS I CAN PRACTICE MY MAGIC WHILE I'M AT IT...
...AND THAT BROOM WILL DO JUST FINE!

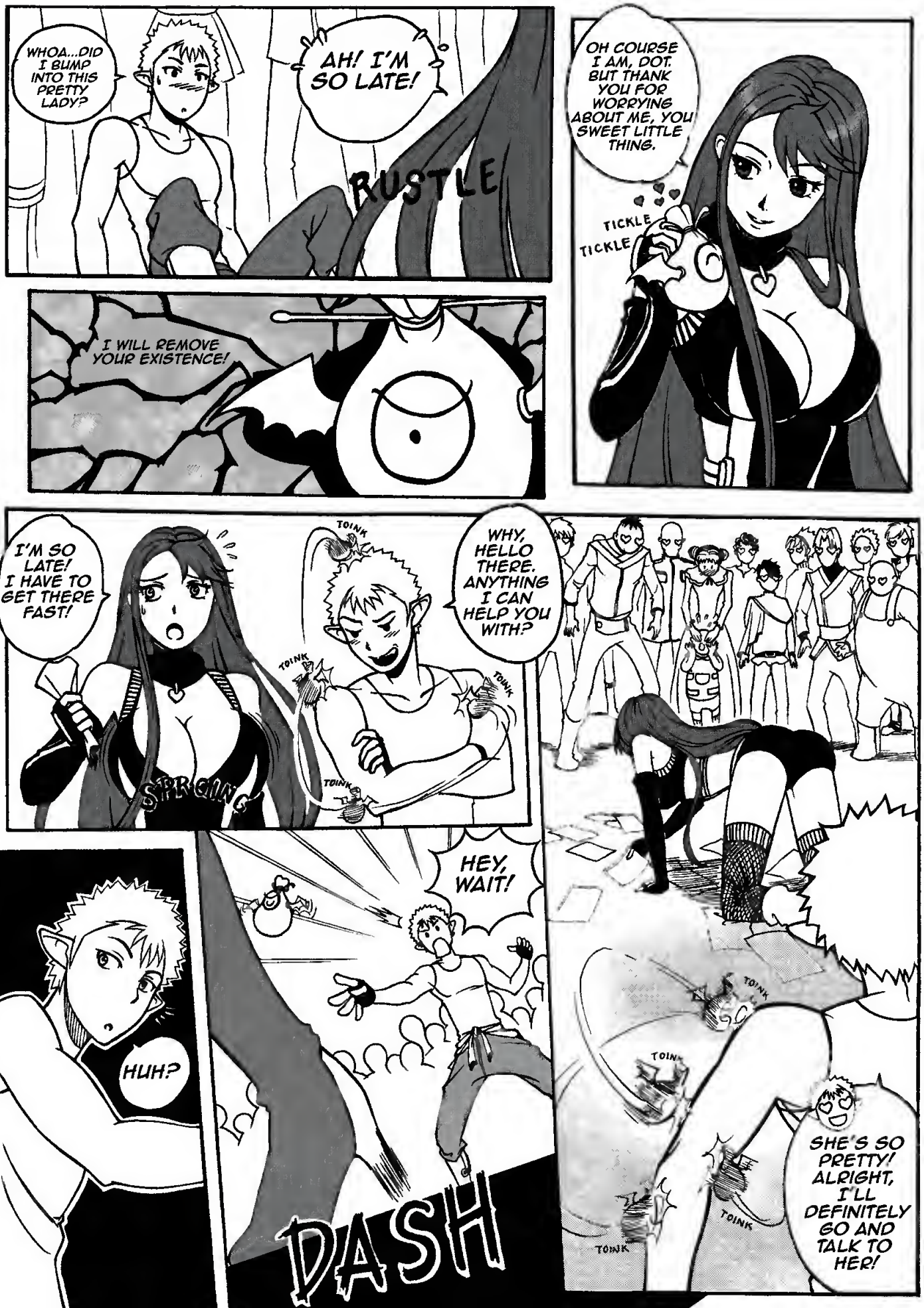
EH?
COME AT ME, BROOM.
SWOOSH
LYN!
CRK
NOT THE FACE, ANYTHING BUT THE FACE!
BHONK
WHY YOU LITTLE....

WELL?! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? GO AND SEE WHO IT IS.
DING DONG
HELLO? HOW MAY I HELP YOU?
HUH? OH, HI THERE. DIDN'T NOTICE YOU.
I'M KIND OF IN A HURRY TO GET TO THE RACE SO CAN YOU TELL ME IF YOU HAVE ANY....
...OOOOH WHAT DOES THIS THINGY DO?!

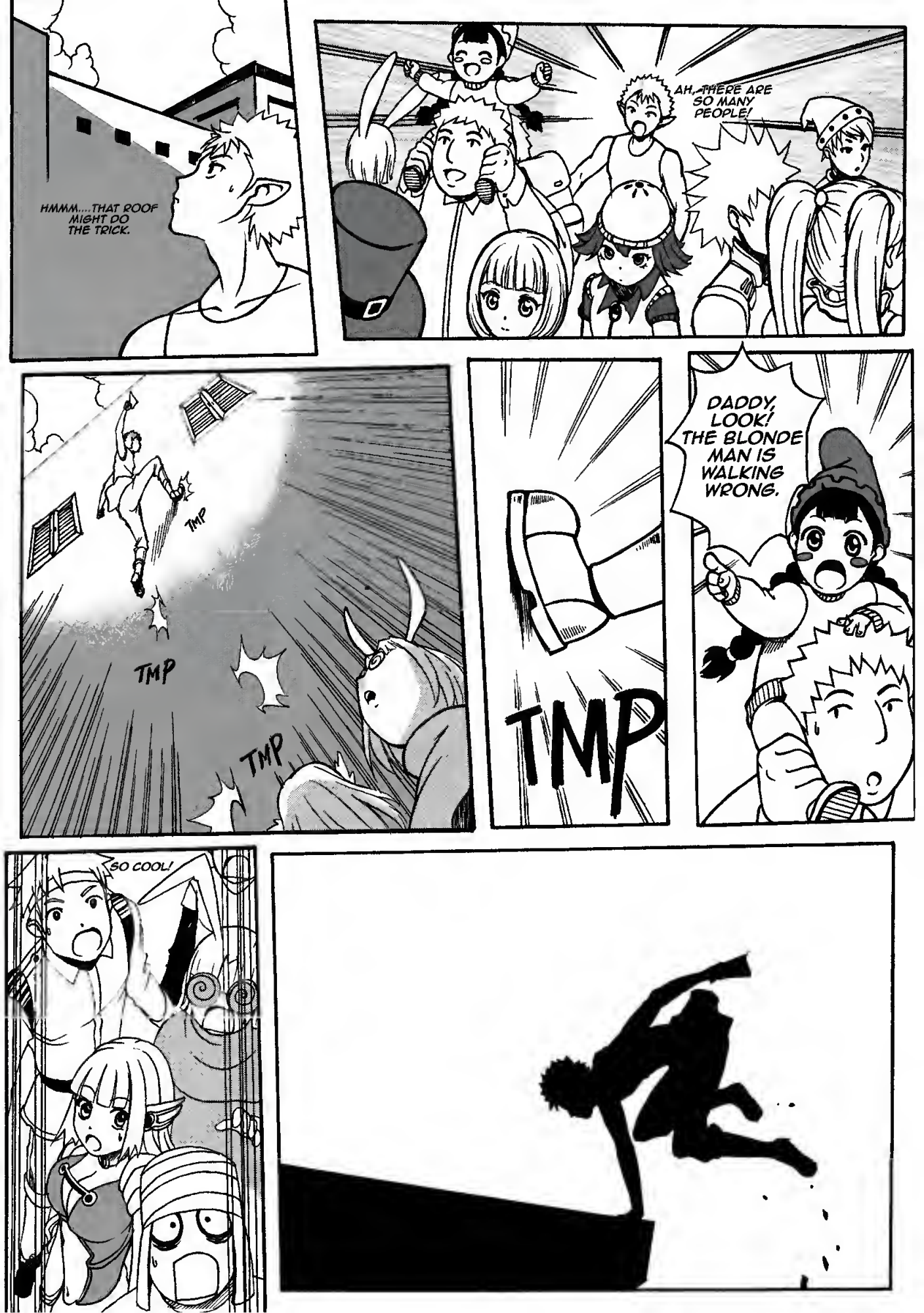
NOT SURE IF WE'VE...
HEY POPS! DO WE HAVE ANY FLUX CAPACITORS IN HERE?
TOINK TOINK
CHECK UNDER THE DESK! AND IT'S FIFTY SILVERS EACH!
WAIT, I CAME HERE TO GET SOMETHING... AH YES!
I NEED A FLUX CAPACITOR, AND COULD YOU PLEASE HURRY UP?
THIS THING? IT'S NOT FOR SALE. IT'S A THRUST DIVERGER BUILT BY ME. IT CAN BOOST CHANNELED POWER BY UP TO 50%.
...AS LONG AS IT DOESN'T BLOW UP, THAT IS...
OOOOH LOOKS SHINY!
AH, HERE IT IS!
THANK YOU FOR THE PURCH....
KLINK
KLINK
THAT WILL BE 50 SILVERS, PLEASE.

HEY, GREEN-HAIRED GIRL! STOP!!!
DASH
EH?! SHE STOLE MY DIVERGER!
KSH


DAMN IT! WHERE IS SHE?!
HUH?!
FLAP
FLAP
ARE YOU OKAY?
AH, MY HEAD! WHAT JUST HAPPENED? AND HOW DID I END UP ON THE GROUND?
WHY MEEEE?!
AH!!!
WHAM

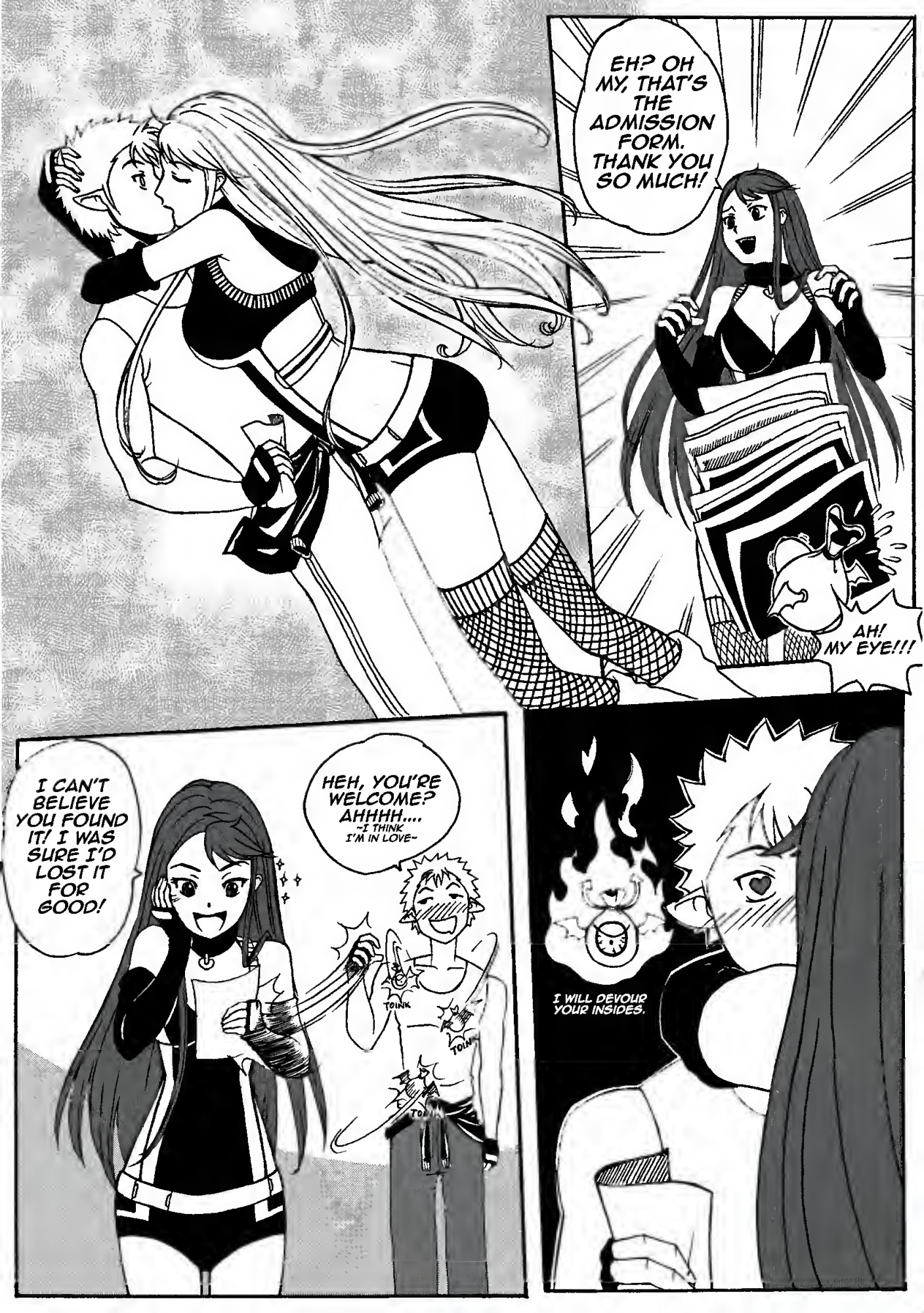

WHOA...DID I BUMP INTO THIS PRETTY LADY?
AH! I'M SO LATE!
RUSTLE
I WILL REMOVE YOUR EXISTENCE!
OH COURSE I AM, DOT. BUT THANK YOU FOR WORRYING ABOUT ME, YOU SWEET LITTLE THING.
TICKLE TICKLE
I'M SO LATE! I HAVE TO GET THERE FAST!
SPRING
TOINK
WHY, HELLO THERE. ANYTHING I CAN HELP YOU WITH?
HEY, WAIT!
HUH?
DASH
SHE'S SO PRETTY! ALRIGHT, I'LL DEFINITELY GO AND TALK TO HER!

ENTER THE MAGICAL RACE
WHAT'S THIS? I GUESS SHE DROPPED IT.
BETTER GO AND GIVE IT TO HER.
THERE SHE IS!


HMMM....THAT ROOF MIGHT DO THE TRICK.
AH...THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE!
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP
DADDY, LOOK! THE BLONDE MAN IS WALKING WRONG.
SO COOL!

FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
TAP
TAP
FLAP
THERE SHE IS.

?
TAP
FINALLY! I CAUGHT UP WITH HER.
huff huff
THUD
TAP
SIGN UP HERE
HERE, LADY. I THINK YOU DROPPED THIS.


EH? OH MY, THAT'S THE ADMISSION FORM. THANK YOU SO MUCH!
AH! MY EYE!!!
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FOUND IT! I WAS SURE I'D LOST IT FOR GOOD!
HEH, YOU'RE WELCOME? AHHHH.... ~I THINK I'M IN LOVE~
TOINK
TOINK
I WILL DEVOUR YOUR INSIDES.

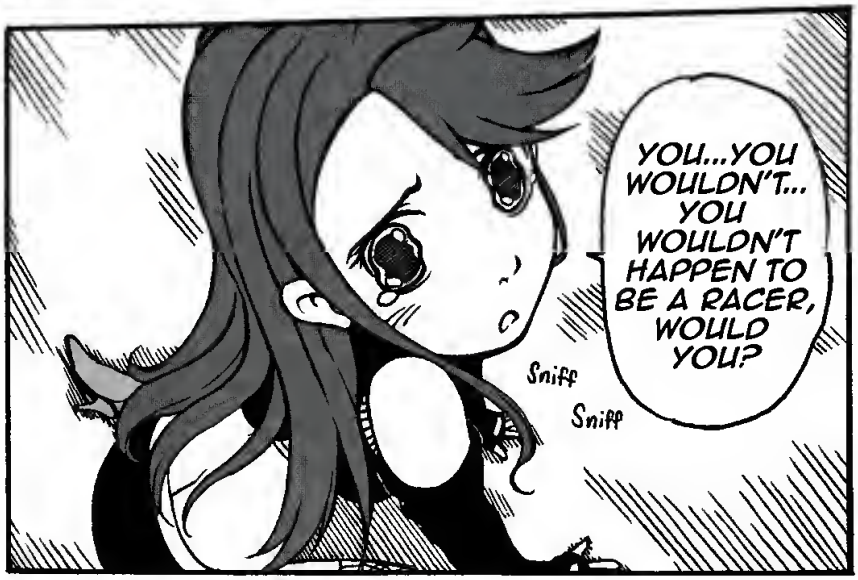
HERE YOU GO - MY TEAM'S ADMISSION FORM.
ENTER
SORRY, BUT YOUR TEAM IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO ENTER THE RACE.
WHAT?! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? EVERYTHING IS RIGHT THERE!
BAM
IT'S JUST THAT YOUR TEAM DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH PEOPLE.
WAHHH, WHAT DO YOU MEAN?! FOUR PEOPLE, IT SAYS SO RIGHT THERE! IT'S JUST NOT FAIR!
HEY, LADY? UM, ABOUT THAT KISS...

DROP

AGAIN, I APOLOGIZE BUT THE RULES HAVE BEEN UPDATED. THE NEW RULES STATE THAT THE TEAMS HAVE FROM FIVE TO TEN MEMBERS IN ORDER TO ENTER THE RACE.

UMMM... EXCUSE ME LADY, BUT WHY EXACTLY DID YOU KISS ME?
NOT FAIR! WHERE AM I GOING TO FIND ANOTHER RACER?!
OH CAN'T YOU SHUT UP FOR A MINUTE?!

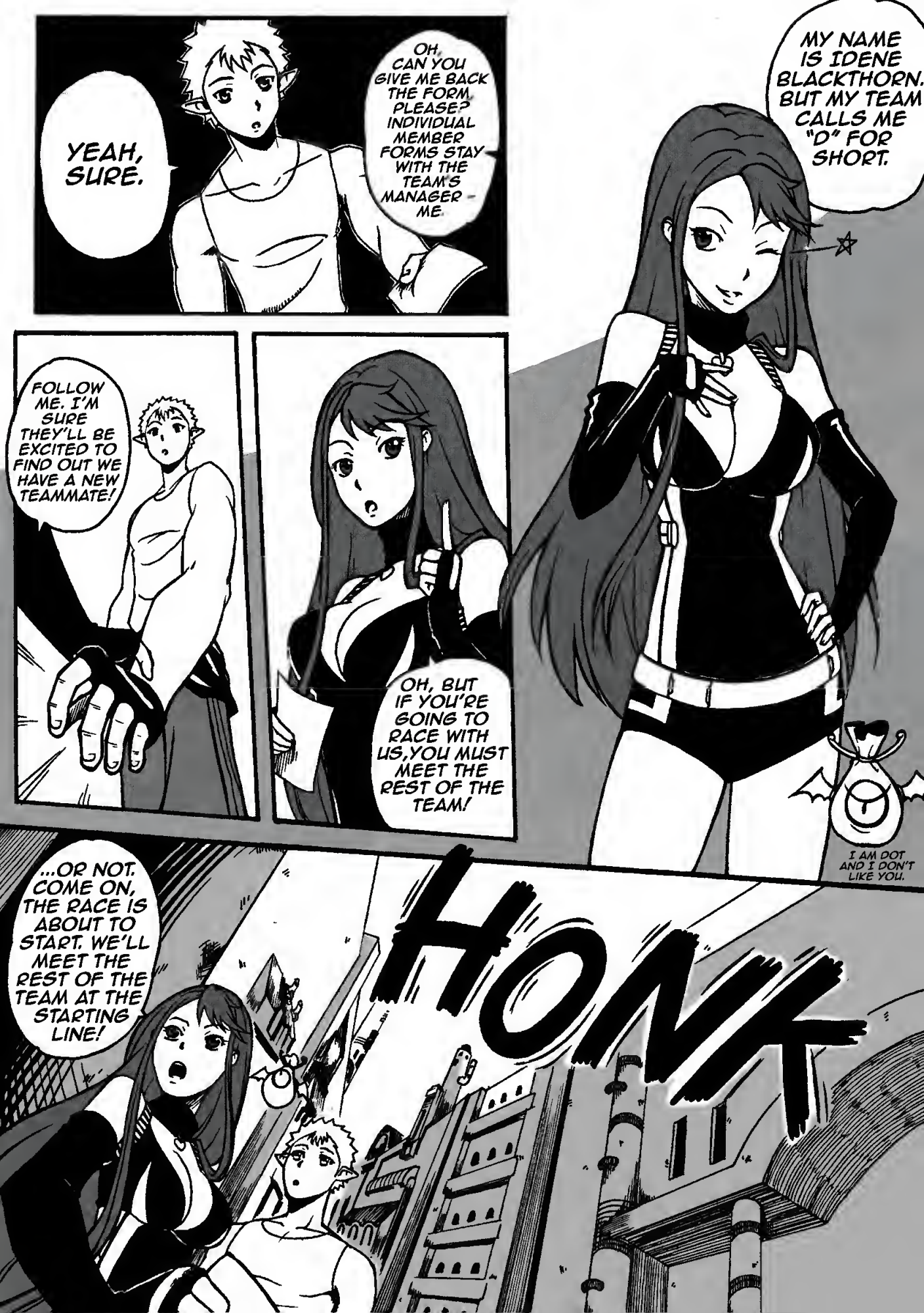
WHAT?!


YOU...YOU WOULDN'T... YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO BE A RACER, WOULD YOU?
Sniff
Sniff

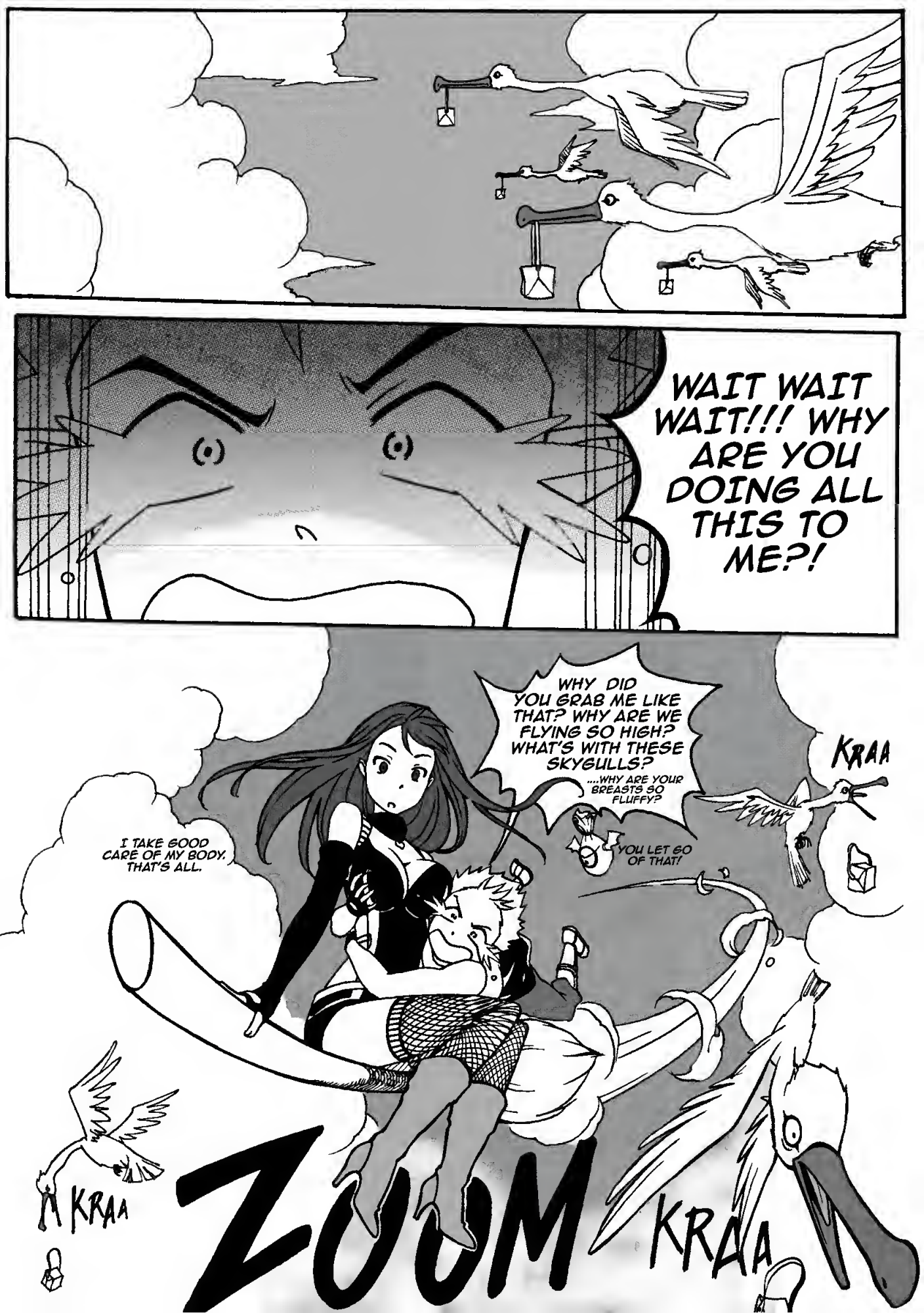
LYN. IT'S LYN. BUT WHAT DO YOU NEED FROM ME?
DOESN'T MATTER! COULD YOU JUST TELL ME YOUR NAME, PLEASE?
POOF
L...Y...N! THERE WE GO!
POOF
Magical Race
Admission
Name:
Team:
EH?! WAIT, WHAT DID YOU JUST DO?
OH, THANK YOU SO MUCH, LYN!
HEY! STOP DOING THAT!

HEY, I KNOW YOU! AREN'T YOU DAR'S KID? I LEFT MY SCOOTER WITH YOU LAST WEEK. I WAS EXPECTING IT YESTERDAY.
LET ME CONGRATULATE YOU, MY GOOD BOY.
SHAKE
YOU ARE NOW OFFICIALLY PART OF THE MAGIC RACE.
YEAH, ABOUT THAT.. IT'S GONNA TAKE A FEW MORE DAYS, AHAHAHAHA.... AHEM, SO ANYWAYS, WHAT IS THIS MAGIC RACE ALL ABOUT?!
FWIP
JUST AS THE NAME WOULD SUGGEST - IT'S A MAGICAL RACE.
IT GOES ACROSS THE ENTIRE KINGDOM. NO RULES, NO LIMITS, NO BREAKS.
NOTHING BUT AN EXPLOSIVE SHOW OF
POWER, SPEED, AND PROWESS.
IT'S A RACE WHERE ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN.

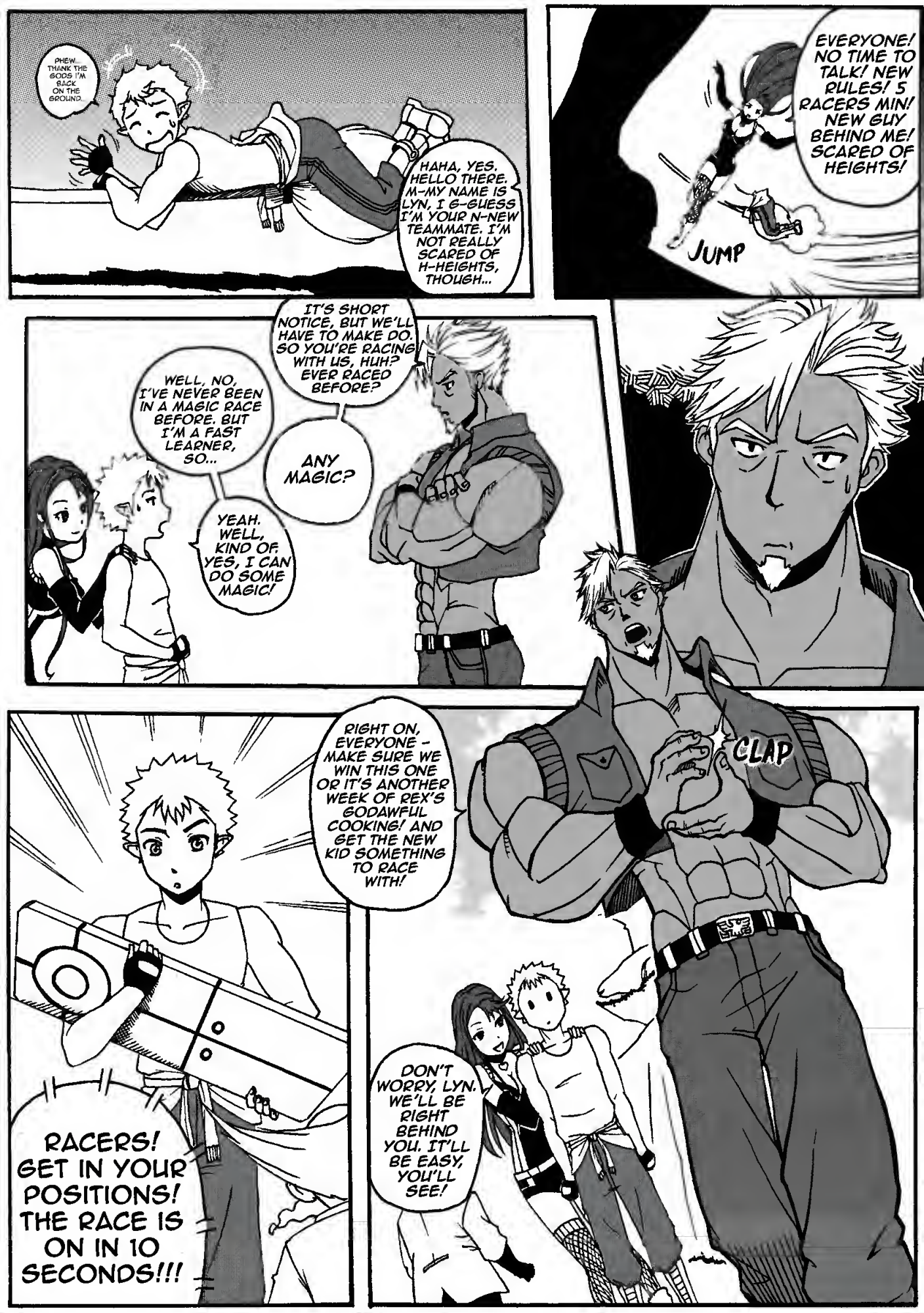
BAM
SNAP
ADMISSION OF NEW TEAMS IS NOW OFFICIALLY CLOSED!
POOF
SIGN UP
MAGICAL, HUH? WELL I GUESS IT CAN'T BE THAT BAD. BUT WHAT DID YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAID ANYTHING CAN HAPP...
OH, WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT. SEEMS YOU MADE IT JUST IN TIME.
OH, AND IT'S EXACTLY AS IT SOUNDS: ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN IN THE RACE. SO YOU BE CAREFUL NOW, MY GOOD BOY.
BYE BYE YOU TWO. SEE YOU AT THE FINISH LINE!
SO... WHEN ARE YOU GOING TELL ME YOUR NAME
...


YEAH, SURE.
OH, CAN YOU GIVE ME BACK THE FORM, PLEASE? INDIVIDUAL MEMBER FORMS STAY WITH THE TEAM'S MANAGER - ME.
MY NAME IS IDENE BLACKTHORN. BUT MY TEAM CALLS ME "D" FOR SHORT.
FOLLOW ME. I'M SURE THEY'LL BE EXCITED TO FIND OUT WE HAVE A NEW TEAMMATE!
OH, BUT IF YOU'RE GOING TO RACE WITH US, YOU MUST MEET THE REST OF THE TEAM!
I AM DOT AND I DON'T LIKE YOU.
...OR NOT. COME ON, THE RACE IS ABOUT TO START. WE'LL MEET THE REST OF THE TEAM AT THE STARTING LINE!
HONK

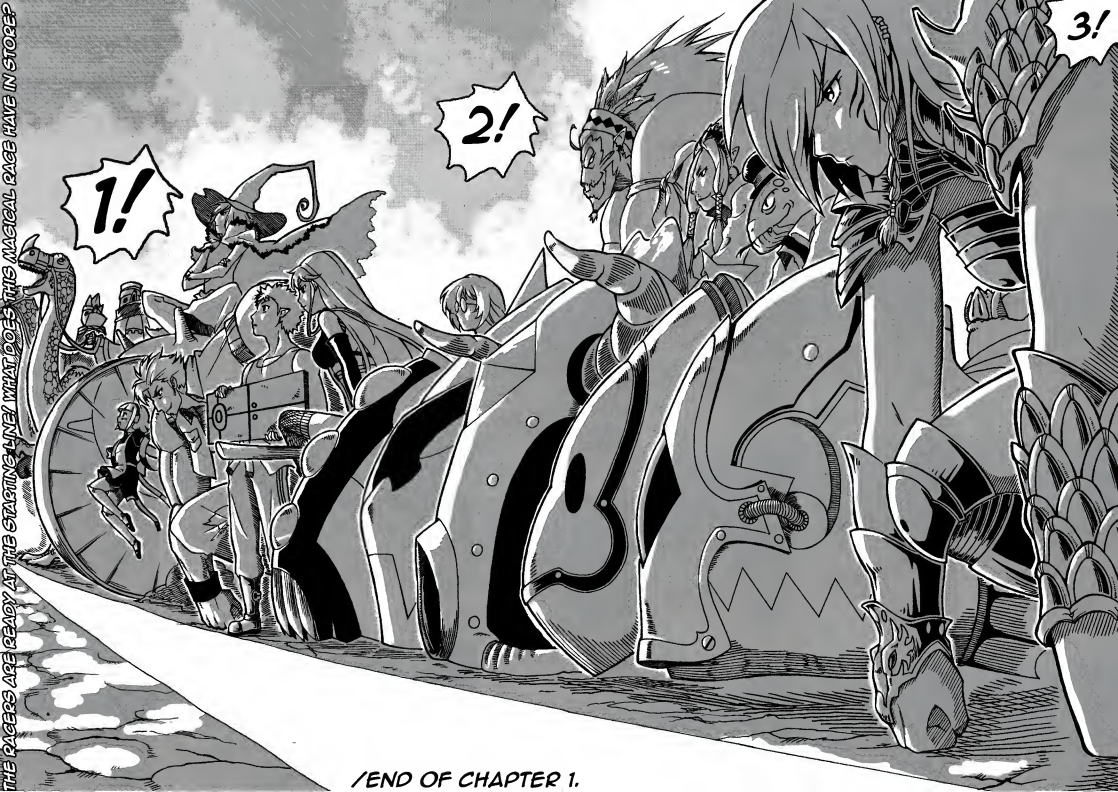
SNAP
HUH?! WHAT IS...
...THAT?!
COME ON, WE HAVE TO HURRY UP!


WAIT WAIT WAIT!!! WHY ARE YOU DOING ALL THIS TO ME?!
WHY DID YOU GRAB ME LIKE THAT? WHY ARE WE FLYING SO HIGH? WHAT'S WITH THESE SKYGULLS?
....WHY ARE YOUR BREASTS SO FLUFFY?
KRAA
YOU LET GO OF THAT!
I TAKE GOOD CARE OF MY BODY. THAT'S ALL.
KRAA
ZOOM
KRAA

HONK
AND YOU BETTER GET OVER IT SOON BECAUSE THERE'S THE STARTING LINE.
YOU KNOW, YOU COULD'VE TOLD ME ABOUT YOUR IRRATIONAL FEAR OF SPEED EARLIER.
IT'S NOT SPEED THAT SCARES ME, IT'S HEIGHTS. HEIGHTS!
...
AND I DEMAND YOU BRING THIS BROOM DOWN!


PHEW... THANK THE GODS I'M BACK ON THE GROUND...
HAHA, YES. HELLO THERE. M-MY NAME IS LYN, I G-GUESS I'M YOUR N-NEW TEAMMATE. I'M NOT REALLY SCARED OF H-HEIGHTS, THOUGH...
EVERYONE! NO TIME TO TALK! NEW RULES! 5 RACERS MIN! NEW GUY BEHIND ME! SCARED OF HEIGHTS!
JUMP
IT'S SHORT NOTICE, BUT WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE DO. SO YOU'RE RACING WITH US, HUH? EVER RACED BEFORE?
WELL, NO, I'VE NEVER BEEN IN A MAGIC RACE BEFORE. BUT I'M A FAST LEARNER, SO...
ANY MAGIC?
YEAH. WELL, KIND OF. YES, I CAN DO SOME MAGIC!
CLAP
RIGHT ON, EVERYONE - MAKE SURE WE WIN THIS ONE OR IT'S ANOTHER WEEK OF REX'S GODAWFUL COOKING! AND GET THE NEW KID SOMETHING TO RACE WITH!
DON'T WORRY, LYN. WE'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU. IT'LL BE EASY, YOU'LL SEE!
RACERS! GET IN YOUR POSITIONS! THE RACE IS ON IN 10 SECONDS!!!

10!
DOM
DOM
WHY IS THAT ANNOUNCER'S VOICE SO FAMILIAR?
4!
5!
6!
7!
8!
9!



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